

PLATFORM LIFT APPARATUS WITH INTEGRATED LADDER FOR ACCESSING ATTIC STORAGE SPACE

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A platform lift system includes a mounting frame that is fixedly engaged into a
5 scuttle hole formed in a horizontal supporting surface (i.e., attic floor or room ceiling)
and a foldable ladder that is supported by the frame. A separate trolley carries a lift
platform that may be selectively raised or lowered in order to transport objects to/from
the attic space. The trolley is moveable horizontally along a track that may be provided
on a floor of the attic space. At a first end of travel of the trolley along the track, the
10 trolley is disposed laterally alongside and vertically offset from the mounting frame such
that the space above the mounting frame is unimpeded to permit a user to access the
attic space using the deployed ladder. At a second end of travel of the trolley along the
track, the trolley is aligned vertically with the mounting frame to permit use of the lift
platform. The trolley further includes a drive system that controls the movement of a
15 plurality of lift tethers that are coupled to the platform. The platform is raised by
withdrawing the lift tethers, and is lowered by paying out the lift tethers. The ladder
further includes a track that provides a guide for movement of a lift platform.